

while maintaining that discussion should be carried out with polite conduct and consideration of others. He is known for his Civility sign, which he frequently hung on lecterns to facilitate respectful and productive discussion. He sought to encourage individuals to speak who normally would not, increase engagement, and promote kindness.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of Barry Schneider. His dedication and leadership have helped shape a vibrant community for Roosevelt Island and Manhattan's Upper East Side. His presence on Community Board 8 will be missed, and he leaves a lasting impact with his devoted service to his community.

CONGRATULATING ST. ELIZABETH'S BASEBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2022 CLASS I STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the St. Elizabeth Hornets baseball team for winning the Class I State title.

As the father of three St. Elizabeth graduates and a graduate myself, I couldn't be prouder of this program. This is the baseball team's second state title in three seasons. These great players and coaches should be commended for their hard work throughout this past year and for bringing home the state title to their school and community.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the St. Elizabeth Hornets baseball team for a job well done.

HONORING ROSEMONT BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Rosemont Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky on their 75th anniversary.

The church was founded in 1947. At that time, it was the entry point to south Lexington. There weren't any houses or other buildings in the area when the church was built. The neighborhood grew up around the church.

As the congregation gathers to celebrate the 75th anniversary, I recognize the impact that this congregation has made on the Lexington community over the years. The church has reached thousands of people with food, financial assistance, and spiritual sustenance.

I congratulate Senior Pastor Eddie Benton and all the members of Rosemont Baptist Church in Lexington on their 75th anniversary and wish them many more years of successful ministry, serving God and reaching out to the community.

HONORING RHETT ROBINSON

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Rhett Robinson, upon his acceptance to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

As a future midshipman, he will be joining the ranks of the world's most elite naval force, guided by the motto: "Acta Non Verba."

The service and sacrifice of America's military personnel have safeguarded our nation since its inception, defending our way of life from Lexington to Normandy.

A vital part of our Nation's maritime operations, the Merchant Marine's duties are dynamic—transporting cargo and passengers during peacetime and serving as an auxiliary to the United States Navy during times of war.

I was glad to sponsor Rhett's nomination, as his dynamism reflects the mission of the branch which he will soon serve. I am confident that his talents will distinguish him among his peers during his time at the Academy and thereafter.

I congratulate Rhett, and know that he will make this Nation proud.

IN RECOGNITION OF HELEN HILTON RAISER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable philanthropist and community leader, Helen Hilton Raiser. Through sheer will and determination she helped restore a wasteland into a major new public attraction in the City by the Bay: Francisco Park, a new 4.5 acre jewel at the corner of Hyde and Francisco Streets. Helen contributed in countless ways by fundraising, assisting in design and promoting her vision for this new park during its development.

In addition to Helen, credit goes to hundreds of neighbors and the leadership of the Francisco Park Conservancy, including board president Leslie Alspach and all of the original and successor board members. \$27.5 million was raised by these leaders and Helen as they sought to turn a long-neglected area into a new destination in San Francisco.

For 80 years this site was a deserted reservoir hosting poison oak, raccoons, and an occasional coyote, but otherwise inhospitable to visitors. The reservoir was San Francisco's first, built in 1860 and it was crucial during the 1906 earthquake and fire. However, it was abandoned in 1940 after a newer facility was built a short distance away. This old reservoir remained an eyesore for decades, only to begin its renaissance after neighbors organized in 2011, and after the San Francisco Recreation and Parks department assumed formal responsibility for the location in 2014.

What makes Francisco Park so special is that numerous community meetings over many years led to a special place that will serve both residents and likely hundreds of thousands of visitors, annually. The park is ad-

jacent to the Hyde Street cable car and visitors from around the globe will probably disembark and enjoy the inspirational views from this place of urban greenery. There is also a children's playground, a fenced dog run with artificial turf, and a community garden. A "heart of San Francisco" sculpture is on display, donated by Helen Hilton Raiser. It was created by the artist Laura Lineback. Early settlers and the harbor of what was then known as Yerba Buena were located nearby, so history is at the fingertips of visitors. Interpretive signage offers visitors important historical facts about the site, educational lessons about water conservation, a description of views from the location, and other features that make the park as much a classroom as it is recreational open space.

While I rise to highlight this park, Ms. Raiser and her neighbors, I also note Helen's long history of philanthropy and activism. She is well known as a leader at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and as a major benefactor, over decades, of community groups from the peninsula through San Francisco.

It was my good fortune to meet her decades ago as she led her campaign against handguns and gun violence. She personally led a 1982 effort on the California ballot to sharply reduce the number of handguns in California, and was a board member of Handgun Control, Inc. We became personal friends after that effort. Locally, she was a major volunteer with the Girl Scouts of America, the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County, at Mills-Peninsula Hospital, numerous school associations and she served on the Board of Directors of the Junior Statesman Foundation as well as the Family Service Agency of San Mateo County. She has been a major advocate for affordable housing through the nonprofit Human Investment Project. In recognition of her outstanding leadership, Helen Hilton Raiser was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame in 1987.

Madam Speaker and members, we have known great adversity in these past years as a scourge of nature visited our streets and our homes. We watched as nations yielded to the pressure of the pestilence, and as national and personal economies crumbled under the weight of our times. At moments such as these, it is important to remember that the makers of history are not always those whose names are in the headlines. They are often neighborhood activists, intent upon improving our country one park, one block or one school at a time. Throughout her life, whether via art or philanthropy, in schools or hospitals, in the halls of Congress or the state capitol, Helen Hilton Raiser is one of those makers of history. Let me express my gratitude for her friendship and leadership. There is nothing truer to our purpose as a nation than civic virtue, and Helen Hilton Raiser is its embodiment.

MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ALLIANCE OF INDIA AND AMERICA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the strong and vibrant relationship

between India, the world's largest democracy, and the United States, the world's oldest democracy, has demonstrated our shared values for Rule of Law.

I grew up with an appreciation of the people of India, because my father, First Lieutenant Hugh Wilson, served there in the U.S. Army Air Corps Flying Tigers in 1944, where he recognized the industriousness of the citizens of India.

I am particularly grateful for the prosperous Indian-American community in South Carolina and look forward to its continued growth and achievements. In 2014 in New York at Madison Square Garden, I helped welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in 2016 in Washington, I was on the Escort Committee for the Prime Minister's address to Congress, in 2019 in New Delhi at the Red Fort, I attended Indian Independence Day, and in 2019 at the Howdy Modi program in Houston at the Astrodome, I joined President Donald Trump to recognize the Prime Minister.

South Carolina's first female governor in 340 years was appropriately Nikki Randhawa Haley, who served with distinction. The Indian American community, of all immigrant groups in the United States, has achieved the highest per capita income level.

I appreciate the visits with India's Consul General Dr. Swati V. Kulkarni of Atlanta and Mr. KV Kumar, President and CEO of the Indian American International Chamber of Commerce to discuss the bilateral relationship between India and the United States. Bilateral trade in goods between the two countries crossed the \$100 billion mark in 2021, making it the largest volume of goods trade in a calendar year in India-U.S. economic history. This also represents an almost 45 percent jump from 2020, which is the single biggest jump of all the U.S. trade partners. Working together, Indian industry can build dynamic military manufacturing to be independent of foreign suppliers.

The talks with Consul General also covered conversation on mass murder by war criminal Putin in Ukraine, its implications, and current regional developments.

To take U.S. and India ties forward and to realize the full spirit of our strategic partnership, USA and the Republic of India need to cooperate more closely in the Indo-Pacific. Certainly, there are issues of mutual concern with regard to China's malign goals in the region, and the partnership to counter these authoritarian aspirations should be robust.

Throughout her service as India's Consul General, Dr. Kulkarni has been an exemplary representative of the Republic of India. She was proactive across the southeast promoting the shared values of India and America. She will be greatly missed upon her departure from her post, as she continues her productive service for the people of India.

In the current contest of democracy with Rule of Law opposed by authoritarians with Rule of Gun, it is more important for cooperation to establish peace through strength.

STANDING WITH THE PEOPLE OF BANGLADESH

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the people of Bangladesh. I want to voice my support for human rights defenders, members of minority groups, and civil society in Bangladesh at this moment when the Bangladeshi government is persisting in threatening the basic human rights and civil liberties of its people. The Bangladeshi government, led by Sheikh Hasina of the Awami League, has earned widespread criticism for its deteriorating human rights record, and for its failure to protect the most vulnerable people living in Bangladesh—indigenous people, women, religious minorities, activists, and refugees.

Amnesty International tracks human rights abuses in Bangladesh and has noted their acceleration during the pandemic. Under the draconian Digital Security Act of 2018, Bangladeshi journalists and other human rights defenders are routinely persecuted for reporting on corruption or criticizing any of the government's policies. COVID-19 policies against public gatherings have been used to prevent political meetings, and to quell public protests against the government. Violence against women and indigenous activists has also intensified during the pandemic.

The Bangladeshi government employs a joint task force composed of members of police, military, and border guards called the Rapid Action Battalion, and it has consistently failed to address the excesses of these and other security forces. The Rapid Action Battalion and other Bangladeshi law enforcement entities are alleged to be responsible for more than 600 disappearances since 2009 and nearly 600 extrajudicial killings since 2018. These incidents reportedly target opposition party members, journalists, and human rights activists.

Last August, the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, of which I am a member, hosted a briefing on the deeply disturbing uptick in enforced disappearances in Bangladesh. Representatives from Human Rights Watch and the Asian Human Rights Commission participated, as did Bangladeshi photojournalist and activist Shahidul Alam who had been unlawfully arrested after posting criticism of the Bangladeshi Government on Facebook, and the sister of disappeared opposition leader Sajedul Islam Sumon. These violent and illegal forced disappearances have chilling effects on free speech, political opposition, and civil society.

On International Human Rights Day last year, the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced sanctions on the Rapid Action Battalion, citing how their actions undermine the rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The United Nations reported that since the sanctions against the Rapid Action Battalion officials were announced in December, the Bangladeshi government has responded by launching a retaliatory campaign of intimidation and harassment. The homes of at least 10 relatives of people forcibly disappeared are reported to have been raided at night, and some relatives were

forced to sign statements saying that their loved ones had not in fact been forcibly disappeared.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in standing with the people of Bangladesh, especially those bravest and most vulnerable, and urging the Bangladeshi government to take immediate action to respect the civil rights and safety of all the people of Bangladesh.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT HUNGERSCHAFFER

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Robert A. Hungerschafer from Bellingham, Washington.

Robert is a dedicated volunteer who has served his community with selflessness and compassion by donating blood, plasma and platelets.

His contributions are staggering.

Robert has made 1,100 voluntary donations, potentially saving more than 7,900 lives.

He has donated more than 300 gallons of blood, plasma and platelets and traveled over 74,000 miles to help save lives.

But Robert is more than a donor.

He also volunteers by documenting the lives of Washington state servicemembers who lost their lives in World War I.

Robert's donations help save the lives of people he will never meet. This selflessness is essential to building stronger communities and is a reminder that everyone can play a part in improving the lives of their neighbors.

It is my honor to recognize Robert A. Hungerschafer for his service to his community, Washington state and the United States.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA LEVENSON—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, each year, through the Women of the Year Award, my office extends special recognition to women on the Central Coast who have made a difference in our community. I would like to recognize one outstanding Women of the Year Award recipient, Barbara Levenson, of Pismo Beach, California.

After 27 years as a pharmacist at Atascadero State Hospital, Barbara Levenson retired to focus on community service. But even before retirement, Barbara was recognized by the Tribune as an Unsung Hero for her dedication to serving humane causes. This is illustrated by her work with the Wellness Kitchen in Atascadero, where food was prepared for residents with special dietary needs due to health conditions. She was also a member of the Flying Samaritans, a team of medical professionals that flies to different areas of the world to provide free medical services to the needy.